

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1704
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6804

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, NATO, SP
SUBJECT: SPAIN NATO SPANISH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN ANALYZING
THE SPANISH MILITARY BUDGET

REF: (A) MADRID 4803, (B) USNATO 7536

1. PURSUANT TO AN INDICATION OF INTEREST FROM THE SPANISH
SIDE IN THE BILATERAL "AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION
WITH NATO" WE PROVIDED THE SPANISH CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMITTEE IN JULY, ON A CONFIDETNIAL BASIS, WITH A
DETAILED DEFINITION OF DEFENSE EXPEDITURES DESIGNED TO
HELP SPANISH AUTHORITIES ARRIVE ATA AN ASSESSMENT OF THE
PERCENTAGE OF GNP DEVOTED TO DEFENSE IN SPAIN WHICH WOULD
BE COMPARABLE WITH THE FIGURES PUBLISHED FOR NATO MEMBERS.
SPANISH CO-CHAIRMAN HAS NOW REQUESTED THE EMBASSY TO
DETERMINE WHETHER DIRECT CONTACT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE BETWEEN
AN APPROPRIATE US EXPERT AT NATO AND THE INTERESTED
ELMENTS OF THE SPANISH ARMED FORCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF
EVALUTING SPANISH ESTIMATES. A VISIT TO MADRID BY SUCH
AN EXPERT IS REQUESTED BY THE SPANISH CO-CHAIRMAN.

2. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BE AS FORTHCOMING
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AS POSSIBLE WITH THE SPANISH IN THIS MATTER. WE
RECOGNIZE THAT MUCH OF ALLIANCE'S INFORMATION IN THIS AREA
BEARS A NATO CLASSIFICATION, BUT WOULD HOPE THAT SUFFICIENT
FLEXIBILITY COULD BE OBTAINED SO THAT THE SPANISH
COULD BE GIVEN THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO MAKE
ACCURATE COMPARISONS BETWEEN THEIR DEFENSE EXPENDITURES
AND THOSE OF THE ALLIANCE.

3. IN A RELATED EFFORT, WE ARE ALSO PROVIDING THE
GOS, VIA THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, WITH CERTAIN STATISTICAL
DATA ON THE DEFENSE EFFORT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF NATO COUNTRIES, PER REF B.EATON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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